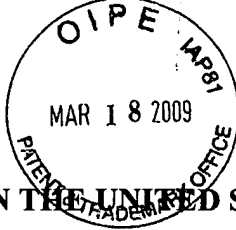


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Shigeru SHIRAI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3751

Appln. No.: 10/525,770

Examiner: H. D. Le

Filed: February 28, 2005

Confirmation No.: 9878

For: SANITARY WASHING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
- Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements previously filed, Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner a Japanese Office Action (Notice of Reasons for Refusal) dated January 6, 2009 with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2003-059159, in which the following documents were cited:

- (1) JP 7-324365 A, along with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
- (2) JP 11-216340 A, along with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;
- (3) JP 2002-018487 A, along with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof;

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- (4) JP 7-241566 A, along with an English language Abstract thereof;
- (5) JP 10-085757 A, along with an English language Abstract thereof; and
- (6) JP 2000-213038 A.

The relevance of these documents, as ascertained with respect to the Japanese claims by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Japanese Office Action.

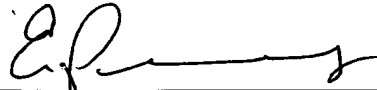
Applicants note that above-noted document (6), together with an English language Abstract and an English language partial translation thereof, was previously cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on March 31, 2005, and thus, a copy of this document is not provided herewith.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of above-noted documents (1)-(5), including the noted English language Abstracts and translations, are attached hereto, and are listed on an attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is also attached hereto. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form, and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

Since this Statement is being submitted after the mailing of the final rejection, Applicants submit herewith the requisite fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Furthermore, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), Applicants hereby certify that each new item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement (i.e., above-noted documents (1)-(5)) was first cited in any communication from an foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shigeru SHIRAI et al.



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March 18, 2009
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